TJK/457

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	) DECODING A SIGNAL ENCODED WITH A) CONVOLUTIONAL CODE
Anthony Richard HUGGETT	)
Based on UK App. No. 0307090.1	)
Filing Date: March 27, 2003	)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the subject application as follows:

IN CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows.

1. (Original) A method of decoding a received signal encoded with a convolutional encoder from an original signal having at least one predetermined bit at a predetermined bit location in the original signal, by determining from the received signal a most probable sequence of states of the encoder consistent with a predetermined generator polynomial of the encoder and with the at least one predetermined bit at the predetermined bit location., the method comprising the steps of:

a) for each received encoded symbol representative of a bit in the original signal, adding, for each possible current state, error coefficients representative of differences between the received encoded symbol, representative of a transition from a previous state of the encoder to a current state, and expected symbols corresponding to predetermined alternative permitted transitions from previous states to the current state, to a sum of such error coefficients for said